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**To:** Examiner A. Kinkead

**From:** Christopher A. Bennett

**Fax:** 703-872-9319

**Date:** September 22, 2003

**Phone:** 703-305-3486

**Pages:** 9

**Re:** 09/731,004

**CC:**

36856.885

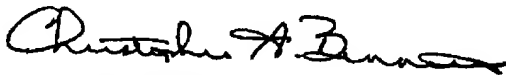
**•Comments:**

Examiner Kinkead,

Please find attached the following documents U.S. Application No. 09/731,004:

1. Request for Continued Examination;
2. Credit card form payment in the amount of \$750.00; and
3. Amendment.

Respectfully submitted,



Christopher A. Bennett  
for  
KEATING & BENNETT, LLP  
(Reg. No. 46,710)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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# REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA)

Application Number	09/731,004
Filing Date	December 6, 2000
First Named Inventor	Fumitoshi SATO
Group Art Unit	2817
Examiner Name	A. Kinhead
Attorney Docket Number	36856.885

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

**NOTE:** 37 C.F.R. § is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the Patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000) which established RCE practice.

## 1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

- a. ☐ Previously submitted
- i. ☐ Consider the amendment(s) reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on  
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
- ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on
- iii. ☐ Other
- b. ☒ Enclosed
- i. ☒ Amendment/Reply
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- iv. ☐ Other

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## 2. Miscellaneous

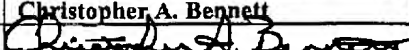
- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(l) required)
- b. ☐ Other

## 1. Fees

The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 (e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

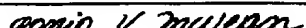
- a. ☐ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No.
- i. ☐ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
- ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)
- iii. ☐ Other
- b. ☐ Check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ enclosed
- c. ☒ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

## SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)	Christopher A. Bennett	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	46,710
Signature		Date	September 22, 2003

## CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop 313(c), Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:


Name (Print/Type)	Sonia V. McVean	Date	September 22, 2003
Signature			

PTO-2038 (02-2000)

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<b>Description of Request and Payment Information:</b>			
<b>RCE Fee</b>			
<b>Patent Fee</b>	<b>Patent Maintenance Fee</b>	<b>Trademark Fee</b>	<b>Other Fee</b>
<b>Application No.</b> 09/731,004	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Serial No.</b>	<b>IDON Customer No.</b>
<b>Patent No.</b>	<b>Patent No.</b>	<b>Registration No.</b>	
<b>Attorney Docket No.</b> 36856.885		<b>Identify or Describe Mark</b>	

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